

PASSAGE THREE (Questions 13–18)

Line
(5)

(10)

Unlike earlier campaigns, the 1960 presidential campaign featured the politically innovative and highly influential series of televised debates in the contest between the Republicans and the Democrats. Senator John Kennedy established an early lead among the Democratic hopefuls and was nominated on the first ballot at the Los Angeles convention to be the representative of the Democratic party in the presidential elections. Richard Nixon, then serving as vice president of the United States under Eisenhower, received the nomination of the Republican party. Both Nixon and Kennedy campaigned vigorously throughout the country and then took the unprecedented step of appearing in face-to-face debates on television. Political experts contend that the debates were a pivotal force in the elections. In front of a viewership of more than 100 million citizens, Kennedy masterfully overcame Nixon's advantage as the better-known and more experienced candidate and reversed the public perception of him as too inexperienced and immature for the presidency.

13. Which of the following best expresses the main idea of the passage?

- (A) Kennedy defeated Nixon in the 1960 presidential election.
- (B) Television debates were instrumental in the outcome of the 1960 presidential election.
- (C) Television debates have long been a part of campaigning.
- (D) Kennedy was the leading Democratic candidate in the 1960 presidential election.

14. The passage implies that Kennedy

- (A) was a long shot to receive the Democratic presidential nomination
- (B) won the Democratic presidential nomination fairly easily
- (C) was not a front runner in the race for the Democratic presidential nomination
- (D) came from behind to win the Democratic presidential nomination

15. The passage states that the television debates between presidential candidates in 1960

- (A) did not influence the selection of the president
- (B) were the final televised debates
- (C) were fairly usual in the history of presidential campaigns
- (D) were the first presidential campaign debates to be televised

16. Which of the following is NOT mentioned about Richard Nixon?

- (A) He was serving as vice president.
- (B) He was the Republican party's candidate for president.
- (C) He campaigned strongly all over the country.
- (D) He was nominated on the first ballot.

17. The passage states that in the debates with Nixon, Kennedy demonstrated to the American people that he was

- (A) old enough to be president
- (B) more experienced than Nixon
- (C) better known than Nixon
- (D) too inexperienced to serve as president

18. The pronoun "him" in line 11 refers to

- (A) John Kennedy
- (B) Richard Nixon
- (C) Eisenhower
- (D) the better-known and more experienced candidate